

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A system for training one or more students over a communication connection, comprising:

an automation control system for executing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby produce a show or a show segment;

tutorial processing means for providing a lesson to a client, wherein at least one of said tutorial processing means and said client includes means for transmitting a command to initiate execution of said sequence of commands; and

communications means for supporting bidirectional communication among said automation control system, said tutorial processing means, and said client.

Cl 2. (Previously Amended) A system of claim 1, wherein said tutorial processing means further comprises:

interrogation means for sending a lesson quiz or a lesson test to said client, wherein said client includes an input interface for permitting a student to interact with said lesson quiz or said lesson test;

evaluation means for determining the performance of said student on said lesson quiz or said lesson test; and

guidance means for sending a study guide to said client based on said performance on said lesson quiz or said lesson test.

3. (Previously Amended) A system of claim 1, wherein said communications means further comprises means for supporting said bidirectional communication over the Internet.

4. (Previously Amended) A method for training one or more students over a connection, comprising the steps of:

 sending a lesson from a tutorial processing means over the connection to a client associated with a student, wherein said lesson includes an assignment to prepare pre-production instructions to operate at least one of a plurality of production devices to produce a show or a show segment;

 receiving data, from said student, in said tutorial processing means in response to said lesson;

 processing said data according to programmed instructions; and
 sending feedback to said student.

5. (Previously Amended) A method of claim 4, wherein said assignment includes directions to prepare a production script and define a sequence of production commands that, when executed, sends control commands to automatically operate said at least one of a plurality of production devices to produce said show or said show segment.

6. (Previously Amended) A method of claim 5, wherein said sequence includes instructions to transmit multimedia segments, assign transition effects, send text to a teleprompting means, or control camera shots.

7. (Previously Amended) A method of claim 4, wherein said lesson comprises text, video graphics and animation.

8. (Original) A method of claim 4, wherein said processing step further comprises the step of sending a study guide based on said data to said student.

9. (Original) A method of claim 4, further comprising the step of sending at least one lesson quiz or lesson test to said student.

10. (Original) A method of claim 9, wherein said processing step further comprises the step of determining the performance of said student on said lesson quiz or said lesson test.

11. (Previously Amended) A method of claim 10, wherein said processing step further comprises the step of sending a study guide based on said performance on said lesson quiz or said lesson test.

12. (Previously Amended) A method of claim 4, wherein said connection comprises the Internet.

13. (Previously Amended) A method for producing video or multimedia content for remote educational sessions from a production environment to one or more clients, comprising the steps of:

(a) distributing a lesson to at least one client;

(b) enabling preparation of a sequence of production commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or a show segment representative of an educational session corresponding to said lesson; and

(c) authorizing execution of said sequence of production commands to create said show or said show segment.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein step (c) comprises the step of:

evaluating said sequence, wherein said authorizing occurs in response to a favorable evaluation.

CI 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein step (c) further comprises the step of:

presenting an evaluation report to enable a user to correct or refine said sequence prior to said authorizing.

16. (Previously Amended) A method for interactive training, comprising the steps of:

(a) accessing a lesson;

(b) providing instructions to prepare a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or a show segment representative of an educational session corresponding to said lesson; and

(c) executing said sequence to create said show or said show segment.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

accessing said lesson or a part of said lesson from a local storage medium.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

accessing said lesson through a wireless interface with a remote medium.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

(d) including commands in said sequence to allow distribution of said show or said show segment over the Internet.

20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

(d) including commands in said sequence to allow distribution of said show or said show segment to one or more destinations.

21. (Previously Amended) A method for managing training sessions, comprising the steps of:

(a) authorizing a user to access a lesson during a training session;
(b) distributing said lesson to a device associated with said user;
(c) enabling preparation of a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or a show segment in response to accessing said lesson, said show or said show segment being representative of an

educational session corresponding to said lesson, said production devices including at least one of a video switcher, digital video effects device, teleprompting system, and studio lighting; and

(d) authorizing execution of said sequence to create said show or show segment.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

verifying payment for said training session.

CI 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

accepting electronic payment for said training session.

24. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

evaluating user performance on past lessons, wherein said authorizing occurs in response to a favorable evaluation.

25. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:

authorizing access in response to determining said user is approved to access said lesson.

26. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:
tracking or marking the placement of said user within a plurality of lessons.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:
authenticating user identity to implement said authorizing.

28. (Previously Amended) A method for providing training, comprising the steps of:

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- (a) distributing a lesson to a device associated with a user;
 - (b) enabling preparation of a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or a show segment representative of an educational session corresponding to said lesson;
 - (c) authorizing execution of said sequence to create said show or said show segment; and
 - (d) allowing access to a messaging center during a training session.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein step (d) comprises the step of:
sending an announcement to one or more users.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein step (d) comprises the step of:
alerting said user to access said messaging center or read a message designated for said user.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein step (d) comprises the step of:

posting a message from said user for access by one or more other users.

CI 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein step (d) comprises the step of:

authenticating user identity to enable said user to read or post a message.

33. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
an instructor interface for enabling lesson planning;
a client for accessing one or more lessons;
a curriculum controller for distributing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes student instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a production, wherein said production devices include at least one of a video switcher, digital video effects device, teleprompting system, and studio lighting; and
an automation control system for executing said sequence to create said production.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, further comprising:
communicator disposed at said client, wherein said communicator enables voice or video transmissions to a second client or said instructor interface.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein said instructor interface includes means for blocking user access to said one or more lessons or to a portion of said one or more lessons.

36. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
a client for accessing one or more lessons;
a matriculation controller for registering a user for accessing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes student instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a production; and
an automation control system for executing said sequence to create said production.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein said matriculation controller includes security means for governing access to said one or more lessons.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein said matriculation controller includes payment means for accepting or verifying payment for accessing said one or more lessons.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein said matriculation controller includes collection means for invoicing a user for accessing said one or more lessons.

40. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
an instructor interface for enabling lesson planning;
a curriculum controller for distributing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or show segment in response to executing said lesson; and

CI an automation control system for executing said sequence to create said show or said show segment.

41. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
a curriculum controller for distributing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or show segment in response to executing said lesson; and

an automation control system for executing said sequence to create said show or said show segment.

42. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
a client for accessing one or more lessons;

a curriculum controller for distributing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a production in response to accessing said lesson, wherein said production devices include at least one of a video switcher, digital video effects device, teleprompting system, and studio lighting; and
an automation control system for executing said sequence to create said production.

Ca 43. (Previously Amended) A production training system, comprising:
a plurality of training groups, wherein each training group includes a plurality of clients for accessing one or more lessons, wherein each training group is in communications with an instructor interface for enabling lesson planning;
curriculum controller for distributing one or more lessons, wherein one of said one or more lessons includes instructions for preparing a sequence of commands to control a plurality of production devices to thereby create a show or a show segment in response to accessing a lesson; and
automation control system for executing said sequence to create said show or said show segment.
